

Remarks/Arguments

Claim Status

Claims 1-14 were originally presented in this application and remain pending. New claims 15-18 are presented for examination with this amendment.

Fee for Extra Independent Claims

Three independent claims were originally presented, and two more independent claims are added by this amendment. A check for \$86.00 is enclosed in payment of the small entity fee for two additional independent claims. If this fee amount is incorrect, or if any additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment and to charge any underpayment to Procopio's Deposit Account No. 50-2075.

Conclusion

Applicant believes all claims to be in allowable form, and respectfully requests examination of this application at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,
Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP

By:


Troy M. Schmelzer
Reg. No. 36,667

Dated: February 6, 2004

Customer No. 27189
Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP
530 B Street, Suite 2100
San Diego, California 92101-4469
(619) 238-1900